

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-15, 17-27, 29, and 30 are currently pending. Claims 4, 10, 16, and 28 have been canceled without prejudice; and Claims 1-3, 7-9, 13, 14, and 19-27 have been amended by the present amendment. The changes to the claims are supported by the originally filed specification and do not add new matter.

In the outstanding Office Action, the title was objected to as being non-descriptive of the claimed invention; and Claims 1-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0041754 to Kikuchi et al. (hereinafter “the ‘754 application”).

Applicants respectfully submit that the objection to the title is rendered moot by the present amendment to the title. The title has been amended to be more descriptive of the claimed invention. Accordingly, the objection to the title is believed to have been overcome.

Amended Claim 1 is directed to a method of compressing and recording data of image information on a recording medium according to a decoding and reproducing unit comprising a plurality of frames, the method comprising: (1) performing compression of inputted image data; (2) generating additional information about the inputted image data; and (3) multiplexing an additional information block that includes the additional information generated in the generating step at a block position immediately before or after a group of blocks including compressed image information processed by compression encoding through the use of only image information in the decoding and reproducing unit, and recording the additional information block on the recording medium. Further, amended Claim 1 clarifies that the additional information including capturing condition values, which include at least

diaphragm adjustment and exposure values. The changes to Claim 1 are supported by the originally filed specification and do not add new matter.¹

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of Claim 1 (and dependent Claims 2-6) as anticipated by the '745 application is rendered moot by the present amendment to Claim 1.

The '754 application is directed to a recording/reproducing apparatus that can simultaneously operate a plurality of recordable/reproducible media such as hard disks and DVD disks. In particular, as shown in Figure 3, the '754 application discloses a structure for a video file, which includes radio object information and an RDI pack. The '754 application discloses that the formatter 56 prepares the RDI pack based on information from an aspect information detector 43, and disposes the pack on top of the video object unit (VOBU).² Further, the '754 application discloses that the RDI pack shown in Figure 4 is a real-time data information pack (RDI_PCK), and includes real-time general information, display control information, manufacture information (MNFI), etc.³

However, Applicants respectfully submit that the '754 application fails to disclose multiplexing an additional information block that includes the additional information at a block position immediately before or after a group of blocks including compressed image information, wherein the additional information comprises capturing condition values, which include at least diaphragm adjustment and exposure values, as recited in amended Claim 1. On the contrary, at most, the '754 application discloses RDI information that includes a film camera mode, but this does not include the capturing condition values that are recited in amended Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that amended Claim 1 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably define over the '754 application.

¹ See, e.g., paragraph [0020] of the published application.

² '754 application, paragraph [0104].

³ '754 application, paragraph [0054].

Independent Claims 7, 13, and 25 recite limitations analogous to the limitations recited in Claim 1. Moreover, independent Claims 7, 13, and 25 have been amended in a manner analogous to the amendment to Claim 1. Accordingly, for reasons analogous to the reasons stated above for the patentability of Claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 7, 13, and 25 (and all associated dependent claims) are rendered moot by the present amendment to the independent claims.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 1, 7, 13, and 25 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably define over the '754 application.

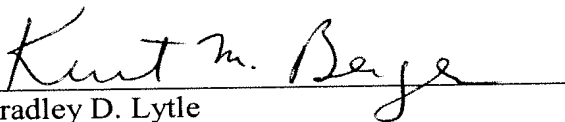
Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussion, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The application as amended herewith is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413-2220
(OSMMN 06/04)


Bradley D. Lytle
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 40,073

Kurt M. Berger, Ph.D.
Registration No. 51,461

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